(d) whether the Government are contemplating to give such workers the status of permanent workers; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Casual Paid Labourers are engaged by the Border Roads Organisation (BRTF) on 'as required basis' to supplement the permanent work-force. Since their engagement is casual in nature, the facilities of permanent workers are not available to them.

(b) to (e). As the Casual Paid Labourer's job is casual in nature, their services are disengaged when no longer required.

Training Facilities for Marine Personnel

795. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a move to privatise the training facilities for marine personnel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). There is no move to privatise the existing government training facilities. However, Government have authorised an existing private organisation to run a training course for ratings, purely on ad hoc basis for a period of one year. This had to be done in view of the urgent necessity to meet shortage of certain categories of seamen and the absence of any Government training establishment for seamen.

Smuggling from Neighbouring Countries

796. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some trucks carrying smuggled goods from Nepal to Delhi were intercepted in January, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of the goods seized;

(c) the number of persons arrested; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to check the smuggling from neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the interception of one truck by the Ghaziabad Police in January, 1992, which was found to be transporting ball bearings of Hungarian make worth Rs. 6.28 lakhs approximately and packing tape of Taiwan origin valued at Rs. 90,000 approximately. The aforesaid goods were seized and two persons, i.e. driver and cleaner of the truck were arrested and produced before C.J.M., Ghaziabad on 15/01/1992.

(d) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery, including that which is deployed on the vulnerable points of the land borders and the coastline has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

India's Participation in Exhibition "Rebuild Kuwait-91"

797. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: